



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/394,902	09/13/1999	Steven L. Stice	000270-026	5113

909 7590 11/13/2002

PILLSBURY WINTHROP, LLP  
P.O. BOX 10500  
MCLEAN, VA 22102

EXAMINER

TON, THAIAN N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1632

DATE MAILED: 11/13/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR /	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
---------------------------------	-------------	------------------------	---------------------

EXAMINER

Thaian N. Ton

ART UNIT	PAPER
1632	16

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Commissioner of Patents

The communication filed 9/12/02, Paper No. 15 is not fully responsive to the Office communication mailed 8/22/02, Paper No. 13 and the Office communication mailed 12/6/02 with regard to the non-provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection over US Pat Nos 6,235,969 and 5,945,577, advanced on page 2-3 of the Office action. When a non-provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection is made, Applicant is required to either respond with arguments or furnish a terminal disclaimer. In the instant case, Applicant has provided neither.

Since the reply appears to be bona fide attempt, Applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH from the mailing date of this communication within which to correct the deficiency in order to avoid abandonment of the application. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thaian N. Ton whose telephone number is (703) 305-1019. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 5:00 (Eastern Standard Time), with alternating Fridays off. Should the examiner be unavailable, inquiries should be directed to Deborah Reynolds, Supervisory Primary Examiner of Art Unit 1632, at (703) 305-4051. Any administrative or procedural questions should be directed to Patsy Zimmerman, Patent Analyst, at (703) 305-2758. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 1600 via the PTO Fax Center located in Crystal Mall 1. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The CM1 Fax Center number is (703) 308-8724.

TNT

Thaian N. Ton  
Patent Examiner  
Group 1632*Deborah Crouch*DEBORAH CROUCH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
GROUP 1632/1630